

July 17, 2008

For more information, contact: Frances Breyne Communications Director 785-296-4731

E-HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS APPOINTED

In partnership with Governor Kathleen Sebelius, the Kansas Health Policy Authority today appointed 7 Kansans to the 14 member Kansas Health Policy Authority E-Health Advisory Council; Governor Sebelius appointed 7 members as well. The Council was developed at the Governor's request to provide guidance on policy issues related to Health Information Technology (HIT) and the Health Information Exchange (HIE).

According to KHPA Executive Director Dr. Marcia Nielsen, "The appointment of the E-Health Advisory Council members is important to our continuing work with the Health Information Exchange (HIE) and Health Information Technology (HIT) initiatives. With the E-Health Advisory Council to guide them, these advancements offer great promise for Kansas health consumers and providers. Electronic health information is an important element in improving the coordination of health care in Kansas."

The Council will act in an advisory capacity to the Governor and the KHPA. It will explore options and make recommendations to leverage the state's purchasing power to promote the use of health information technology and provide recommendations on policy issues related to health information technology.

The KHPA's E-Health Advisory Council appointments are:

Jennifer Brull, M.D., Prairie Star Family Practice
Amy Campbell, Kansas Mental Health Coalition
David Cook, Ph.D., Assistant Vice Chancellor of External Affairs, KUMC
Lynda Farwell, Manager of Patient Financial Services, Cotton O'Neil Clinic
Cathy Harding, Exec. Dir. of the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved
Marta Linenberger, J.D., Special Counsel, Foulston Siefkin, Attorneys
William Wallace, Vice President of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Kansas
Marcia Nielsen, Ph.D., M.P.H., Executive Director of the KHPA, Ex-officio member

The Council's first meeting is scheduled to take place on September 10, 2008 from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm in KHPA Conference Rooms E&F.

For more information on the E-Health Advisory Council, please visit the KHPA website at: http://www.khpa.ks.gov/QandI/default.htm

Rm. 900-N, Landon Building, 900 SW Jackson Street, Topeka, KS 66612-1220

www.khpa.ks.gov

Medicaid and HealthWave:
Phone: 785-296-3981
Fax: 785-296-4813

State Employee Health
Benefits and Plan Purchasing:
Phone: 785-368-6361
Fax: 785-368-7180

<u>State Self Insurance Fund:</u> Phone: 785-296-2364 Fax: 785-296-6995